

ON THE SPECIFIC NAME "MUNDA" KUHL, 1820, AS PUBLISHED
IN THE COMBINATION "PROC[ELLARIA] MUNDA"
(CLASS AVES) —

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(Commission Reference : Z.N.(S.) 704)

(For the application in this case, see *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 12 : 16-18)

(Letter dated 27th June 1956)

In the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* 12 : 16-18, Messrs. Alexander, Falla, Fleming, Murphy, and Serventy propose the suppression of the specific name *Proc[ellaria] munda* Kuhl, 1820. I am afraid that I have not been able to examine their proposal carefully, but I received the impression that these authors did not make it clear whether they wished to suppress the name on the grounds of identification or expediency. I submit that there can be no doubt about the identification ; if they wish to suppress this name (which has clear priority for the species) on the grounds of expediency I should like to support them. It seems desirable that a ruling should be obtained on the case with either alternative.

Proc[ellaria] munda Kuhl was described from the unpublished Parkinson drawing no. 24 among the Banksian material at the British Museum (Natural History). This is a scale pencil drawing made in the field during Cook's first expedition with notes of the colours of the soft parts and the date and place of origin which were quoted by Kuhl. The general appearance and dimensions of the drawing agree with either of the two small shearwaters *Proc[ellaria] assimilis* Gould or *Proc[ellaria] lherminieri* Lesson, but the colours of the soft parts are characteristic of *Proc[ellaria] assimilis*. The drawing shows very prominent edges to all the feathers of the upper parts which appear to be the white borders characteristic of the subantarctic race of *Proc[ellaria] assimilis* variously known by the names *Puffinus elegans* Giglioli and Salvadori, *P. a. munda* Murphy or *P. a. kuhliana* Mathews. All the other races of *Proc[ellaria] assimilis* are uniformly dark above. (Murphy, *Amer. Mus. Novit.* 1927 ; Fleming & Serventy, *Emu* 43 : 113-125). The measurements of different specimens which I have examined are as follows :—

	Culmen (mm.)	Wing (mm.)	Tarsus (mm.)	Mid Toe (mm.)
Parkinson drawing 24 : 48 27S 93E (Type of <i>Proc. munda</i> 1820)	26	180+	39	48
Immature type of <i>Puffinus elegans</i>	27	188	40	48
8 <i>Puffinus assimilis</i> from Tristan (S. Atlantic)	25-27	183-195	39-41	42-48
1 <i>Puffinus assimilis</i> from Rapa Id. (S. Pacific)	25	196	40	43

If there is any further doubt about the identity of this drawing it should be resolved by the associated description of the same bird in the Solander MSS. Z4, p. 115 (first published by Mathews, 1912, *The Birds of Australia*, vol. 2) which states that the bird was "supra cinereo-nigricans, subta nivea" with the upper parts "calybeato-nigricantia", a description which could only apply to the subantarctic form of *Procellaria assimilis* Gould.

Therefore there does not appear to be any doubt about the precise identity of *Procellaria munda* Kuhl, and the name has clear priority for the species *Procellaria assimilis* Gould. It can only be discarded on the grounds of expediency. Stresemann (*Ibis* 91 : 244; *Auk* 67 : 66) has already argued that many of the old names for birds collected on Cook's expeditions which have only recently been identified should be suppressed, on the grounds of expediency. The same arguments apply to *Procellaria munda* Kuhl, but if this case is admitted there are a very large number of other names which should be treated in the same way.

SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSALS ON THE FOLLOWING NAMES IN THE CLASS TRILOBITA:—"PARADOXIDES" BRONGNIART, 1822 (C. POULSEN); "ASAPHUS" BRONGNIART, 1822 (V. JAANUSSON); "TRINUCLEUS" MURCHISON, 1839 (C. J. STUBBLEFIELD & H. B. WHITTINGTON); "CRYPTONYMUS" EICHWALD, 1825 (V. JAANUSSON)

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(Commission References : Z.N.(S.) 623, 636, 926, 1068)

(For the proposals in these cases see *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 12 : 3-13, 90-96, 49-54, 60-64)

(Letter dated 30th July 1956)

Für den Fall, dass es den betreffenden Anträgen helsen kann, möchten wir Ihnen mitteilen, dass wir sie im Interesse der Stabilität der Nomenklatur nachdrücklich unterstützen.

Es handelt sich um folgende Anträge: *Paradoxides*, *Asaphus*, *Trinucleus* and *Cryptonymus*.

(*Cryptonymus*) Wir Schliessen uns diesem Antrag im Sinne von Dr. Stubblefield an, wonach der Name *Cryptonymus* unterdrückt werden soll hinsichtlich der Priorität, nicht aber hinsichtlich der Homonymie.